

REMARKS

This is response to an Office Action dated December 16, 2004 (hereinafter, the Office Action) for the above-identified patent application. With this response, claims 1, 11 and 15 are amended.

Per page 1 of the Office Action, the specification is amended to include the status of the non-provisional parent application filed on August 15, 2001 - now abandoned.

Claims 1-3 and 5-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as unpatentable in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,484,419 to Fleck (the "Fleck patent"), U.S. Patent No. 5,730,150 to Peppel et al (the "Peppel patent") and U.S. Patent No. 6,213,375 to Rybicki (the "Rybicki patent").

Claims 1, 11 and 15 are amended to require a "a body member for insertion into a patient..." and a "a roller wheel rotatably connected to the body member..." . The cited art does not individually, or in combination, suggest or teach a body member for insertion into a patient wherein the body member is rotatably connected to a roller wheel. Indeed, the Rybicki patent is not even related to the medical art. There is absolutely no indication or suggestion that the wire in Rybicki could be inserted into a patient. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully suggests that amended claims 1, 11, 15, and all claims depending therefrom, are in a form for allowance.

Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103 (a) as unpatentable in view of the Fleck, Peppel and Rybicki patents, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,381,777 to Garnier. Applicant respectfully suggests that since amended claim 1 is now in allowable form, dependant claim 4 is also allowable. Notification to that effect is requested.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully suggests that amended claims 1, 11 and 15, and all claims depending therefrom, are in a form for allowance. Notification to that effect is

respectfully requested. If prosecution of this application may be furthered by a telephone interview, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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